



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-ES-2019-N002; FXES11130100000C4-190-FF02ENEH00]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 29 Draft Recovery Plan Revisions for 43 Species in the Pacific, Southwest, and Southeast Regions of the United States

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; opening of public comment period.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability for public review and comment of 29 draft recovery plan revisions, which update recovery criteria for 43 endangered or threatened species located in 16 States (Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas), two unincorporated territories (the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands), Canada, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, the French West Indies, and Mexico. We are updating recovery criteria to better assist in determining when an endangered species has recovered to the point that it may be reclassified as threatened, or that the

protections afforded by the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), are no longer necessary and the species may be removed from the Act's protections. We request review of these draft recovery plan revisions and invite comments from local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and the public.

DATES: We must receive comments on the draft recovery plan revisions on or before **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: *Reviewing documents:* If you wish to review these draft recovery plan revisions, you may obtain copies from the Web site addresses listed in the table in **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. You may also request copies of the draft recovery plan revisions by contacting the individuals listed in the table.

Submitting comments: If you wish to comment, see the table in **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** and submit your comments by one of the following methods:

1. *U.S. Mail or hand-delivery:* You may submit written comments and materials to the appropriate field office mailing address for the species in which you are interested;
2. *Email:* You may send comments by email to the identified contact person's email address in the table, for each species. Please include "Draft Recovery Plan Revision Comments" in the subject line.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on a particular species, contact the appropriate person listed in the table for that species in

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. Individuals who are hearing impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339 for TTY assistance.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In this notice, we announce for public review and comment the availability of 29 draft recovery plan revisions, which update recovery criteria for 43 endangered or threatened species located in 16 States (Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas), two unincorporated territories (the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands), Canada, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, the French West Indies, and Mexico. This group of 29 draft recovery plan revisions is part of a larger effort underway to revise up to 182 recovery plans covering up to 305 species in order to achieve the following Department of the Interior Agency Priority Performance Goal outlined in the Department's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2018–2022: "By September 30, 2019, 100 percent of all Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plans will have quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species."

The purpose of a recovery plan is to provide a roadmap for a species' recovery, with the goal of improving its status and managing its threats to the point at which

protections under the Act are no longer needed. Recovery plans must be designed so that all stakeholders and the public understand the rationale behind the recovery program, whether they were involved in writing the plan or not, and recognize their role in its implementation. We are requesting submission of any information that may help achieve (1) the necessary understanding of species' biology, threats, and recovery needs; (2) identification of implementation issues and concerns; and (3) facilitation of more effective implementation associated with these draft revisions that revise recovery criteria for these 43 species.

Recovery plans provide important guidance to the Service, States, other partners, and the general public on methods of minimizing threats to listed species and objectives against which to measure the progress towards recovery; they are guidance and not regulatory documents. A recovery plan identifies, organizes, and prioritizes recovery actions and is an important guide that ensures sound scientific decision-making throughout the recovery process, which can take decades. Keeping recovery plans current will ensure that the species benefits through timely, partner-coordinated implementation, based on the best available information. A review of a recovery plan and its implementation, however, may show that a recovery plan is out of date or its usefulness is limited and that, therefore, the recovery plan warrants modification.

The need for, and extent of, recovery plan modifications will vary considerably among recovery plans, depending on the scope and complexity of the initial plan, the structure of the document, and the involvement of stakeholders. The need for a recovery

plan revision may be triggered when, among other possibilities: (1) new information has been identified such as population-level threats to the species, or previously unknown life-history traits, which necessitates new or revised recovery strategy, actions, or criteria, or revision of all three in order to maintain the adequacy of the plan; and (2) the current plan is not achieving its objectives. An amendment, a type of recovery plan revision, is more limited in scope than a full revision of the recovery plan and modifies an existing plan, rather than replacing the entire existing recovery plan. Revisions benefit endangered and threatened species, our partners, and the public by incorporating the best available information on what is really needed for species' recovery. Twenty-eight of the 29 proposed recovery plan revisions noticed in this announcement are modified with amendments that replace only a portion of those plans, while one recovery plan (Draft Revised Recovery Plan for the Kootenai River Distinct Population Segment of the White Sturgeon) is a full revision and will completely replace the existing plan.

Revision of recovery plans requires public notice and comment under section 4(f)(4) of the Act, including: (1) a *Federal Register* notice of availability to give opportunity for public review and comment; (2) consideration of all information presented during the public comment period; and (3) approval by the Regional Director. When finalized, these recovery plan revisions will be made publicly available on the Internet through our Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS, <https://ecos.fws.gov>).

What plans are being made available for public review and comment?

This notice announces our draft recovery plan revisions for the species listed in the table below.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status ¹	Current Range	Recovery Plan Name	Internet Availability of Proposed Recovery Plan Revision	Contact Person, Phone, Email	Contact Person's U.S. Mail Address
Pacific Region (Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, and the Pacific Islands)							
White sturgeon [Kootenai River DPS]	<i>Acipenser transmontanus</i>	E	ID, MT, Canada (B.C.)	Draft Revised Recovery Plan for the Kootenai River Distinct Population Segment of the White Sturgeon ²	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Kootenai_River_White_Sturgeon_Draft_Revised_RP_20181211a.pdf	Gregory M. Hughes 208-237-6975 greg_m_hughes@fws.gov	Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Suite 368, Boise, ID 83709
Hutton tui chub	<i>Gila bicolor</i> ssp.	T	OR	Recovery Plan for the Threatened and Rare Native Fishes of the Warner Basin and Alkali Subbasin ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Hutton%20t%20chub%20Draft%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment%2020181211a.pdf	Paul Henson, Ph.D. 503-231-6179 paul_henson@fws.gov	Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office, 2600 SE 98th Avenue, Suite 100, Portland, OR 97266
Southwest Region (Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas)							
Arizona cliffrose	<i>Purshia subintegra</i>	E	AZ	Arizona Cliffrose (<i>Purshia subintegra</i>) Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20AZ%20Cliffrose%20RP%20Amendment.pdf	Field Supervisor 602-242-0210 AZcriteria@fws.gov	Arizona Ecological Services Field Office, 9828 North 31st Avenue #C3, Phoenix, AZ 85051
Desert pupfish	<i>Cyprinodon macularius</i>	E	AZ, CA, Mexico (Son.)	Desert Pupfish Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20Desert%20Pupfish%20RP%20Amendment.pdf	Julie McIntyre 520-670-6150 julie_mcintyre@fws.gov	Arizona Ecological Services Field Office, Tucson Sub-Office, 201 N. Bonita Avenue, Suite 141, Tucson, AZ 85745
Mexican long-nosed bat	<i>Leptonycteris nivalis</i>	E	NM, TX, Mexico (Coah., Hgo., Mor., N.L., and	Mexican Long-nosed Bat (<i>Leptonycteris nivalis</i>) Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20MX%20long-nosed%20bat%20RP%20Amendment.pdf	Adam Zerrenner 512-490-0057, x248 adam_zerrenner@fws.gov	Austin Ecological Services Field Office, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78758

			Son.)				
Nellie's cory cactus	<i>Coryphantha minima</i>	E	TX	Nellie's Cory Cactus (<i>Coryphantha minima</i>) Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20Nellies%20Cory%20Cactus%20RP%20Amendment.pdf		
Davis's green pitaya	<i>Echinocereus viridiflorus</i> var. <i>davisii</i>	E	TX	Davis' Green Pitaya Cactus (<i>Echinocereus viridiflorus</i> var. <i>davisii</i>) ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20Davis%20Green%20Pitaya%20RP%20Amendment.pdf		
Little Aguja pondweed	<i>Potamogeton clystocarpus</i>	E	TX	Little Aguja Pondweed Recovery Plan (<i>Potamogeton clystocarpus</i>) ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20Little%20Aguja%20Pondweed%20RP%20Amendment.pdf		
Yaqui chub	<i>Gila purpurea</i>	E	AZ, Mexico (Son.)	Fishes of the Rio Yaqui Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20Yaqui%20Chub%20RP%20Amendment_1.pdf	Bill Radke 520-364-2104 bill_radke@fws.gov	San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 3509, Douglas, AZ 85607
Navasota ladies'-tresses	<i>Spiranthes parksii</i>	E	TX	Navasota Ladies'-Tresses (<i>Spiranthes parksii</i>) Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20Navasota%20Ladies-tresses%20RP%20Amendment.pdf	Chuck Ardizzone 281-286-8282 chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov	Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office, 17629 El Camino Real, Suite 211, Houston, TX 77058
Texas trailing phlox	<i>Phlox nivalis</i> ssp. <i>texensis</i>	E	TX	Texas Trailing Phlox (<i>Phlox nivalis</i> ssp. <i>texensis</i>) Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20TX%20Trailing%20Phlox%20RP%20Amendment.pdf		
Southeast Region (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands)							
Alabama cave shrimp	<i>Palaemonias alabamiae</i>	E	AL	Alabama Cave Shrimp (<i>Palaemonias alabamiae</i>) Recovery	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Alabama%20Cave%20Shrimp_Recovery%20Plan%20Amendme	William J. Pearson 251-441-5870 bill_pearson@fws.gov	Alabama Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

				Plan ³	nt.pdf		1208-B Main Street, Daphne, AL 36526	
Finelined pocket book	<i>Lampsilis altilis</i>	T	AL, GA, TN	Recovery Plan for Mobile River Basin Aquatic Ecosystem ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/FinelinedPocketbook_Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf			
Coosa moccasinshell	<i>Medionidus parvulus</i>	E	AL, GA, TN		https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Coosa%20moccasinshell%20and%20Southern%20pigtoe%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf			
Southern pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema georgianum</i>	E	AL, GA, TN		https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Southern_Clubshell%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf			
Southern clubshell	<i>Pleurobema decisum</i>	E	AL, GA, MS, TN		https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Ovate_Clubshell_Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf			
Ovate clubshell	<i>Pleurobema perovatum</i>	E	AL, GA, MS, TN					
Georgia pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema hanleyianum</i>	E	AL, GA, TN	Recovery Plan for Georgia pigtoe mussel (<i>Pleurobema hanleyianum</i>), Interrupted rocksnail (<i>Leptoxis foremani</i>), and Rough hornsnail (<i>Pleurocera foremani</i>) ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Georgia%20pigtoe%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment%20(1).pdf	Donald W. Imm, Ph.D. cell: 850–532–2046 office: 706–208–7501 fax: 706–613–6059 Donald_imm@fws.gov	Georgia Ecological Services Field Office, 355 East Hancock Avenue, Room 320 Box 7, Athens, GA 30601	
Rough hornsnail	<i>Pleurocera foremani</i>	E	AL	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Rough%20hornsnail%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf				
Little amphianthus	<i>Amphianthus pusillus</i>	T	AL, GA, SC	Recovery Plan for Three Granite Outcrop Plant Species ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Granite_outcrop_plants_Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf			
Black-spored quillwort	<i>Isoetes melanospora</i>	E	GA, SC					
Mat-forming quillwort	<i>Isoetes tegetiformans</i>	E	GA					
Purple bankclimber	<i>Elliptioideus sloatianus</i>	T	AL, FL, GA	Recovery Plan for Endangered Fat	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/ACF%204%	Catherine T. Phillips, Ph.D.	Panama City Field Office, 1601 Balboa	

Shinyrayed pocketbook	<i>Lampsilis subangulata</i>	E	AL, FL, GA	Threeridge, Shinyrayed Pocketbook, Gulf Moccasinshell, Oval Pigtoe and Threatened Chipola Slabshell, and Purple bankclimber ³	20Mussels%20RP%20Amendment.pdf	850-769-0552 Catherine_phillips@fws.gov	Avenue, Panama City, FL 32405
Gulf moccasinshell	<i>Medionidus penicillatus</i>	E	AL, FL, GA				
Oval pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema pyriforme</i>	E	AL, FL, GA				
Cave crayfish	<i>Cambarus aculabrum</i>	E	AR, MO	Recovery Plan for the Cave Crayfish (<i>Cambarus aculabrum</i>) ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Cambarus%20aculabrum_Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf	Melvin L. Tobin 501-513-4473 melvin_tobin@fws.gov	Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office, 110 South Amity Road, Suite 300, Conway, AR 72032
Etonia rosemary	<i>Conradina etonia</i>	E	FL	Recovery Plan for Etonia Rosemary (<i>Conradina etonia</i>) ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Conradina%20etonia_Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf	Jay B. Herrington 904-731-3191 jay_herrington@fws.gov	Northeast Florida Ecological Services Field Office, 7915 Baymeadows Way, Suite 200, Jacksonville, FL 32256
Florida salt marsh vole	<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus dukecampbelli</i>	E	FL	Recovery Plan for the Florida Salt Marsh Vole (<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus dukecampbelli</i>) ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Florida%20SaltMarsh%20Vole%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf		
Anastasia Island beach mouse	<i>Peromyscus polionotus phasma</i>	E	FL	Recovery Plan for the Anastasia Island Beach Mouse and Southeastern Beach Mouse ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Anastasia%20Island%20Beach%20Mouse%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf		
Schaus' swallowtail butterfly	<i>Papilio aristodemus ponceanus</i>	E	FL	South Florida Multi-Species Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Schaus_%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf	Roxanna Hinzman 772-469-4309 roxanna_hinzman@fws.gov	South Florida Ecological Services Field Office, 1339 20th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960
Key Largo cotton mouse	<i>Peromyscus gossypinus allapaticola</i>	E	FL		https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Key%20Largo%20Cotton%20Mouse%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf		

Key Largo woodrat	<i>Neotoma floridana smalli</i>	E	FL		https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Key%20Largo%20Wood%20Rat%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf		
Tar River spiny mussel	<i>Elliptio steinstansana</i>	E	NC	Tar River Spiny mussel Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/TarRiverSpinyMussel_Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf	Pete Benjamin 919-856-4520 pete_benjamin@fws.gov	Raleigh Ecological Services Field Office, 551F Pylon Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606
Royal marstonia	<i>Pyrgulopsis ogmorhappe</i>	E	TN	Recovery Plan for Royal Snail (<i>Pyrgulopsis ogmorhappe</i>) ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Royal%20Snail_Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf	Lee Andrews 502-695-0468 lee_andrews@fws.gov	Kentucky Ecological Services Field Station, 330 West Broadway, Suite 265, Frankfort, KY 40601
Yellow-shouldered blackbird	<i>Agelaius xanthomus</i>	E	Puerto Rico	Recovery Plan for the Yellow-Shouldered Blackbird (<i>Agelaius xanthomus</i>) ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Yellow-shouldered%20blackbird%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf	Edwin E. Muñiz 787-851-7297 edwin_muniz@fws.gov	Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office, P.O. Box 1600, Rio Grande, PR 00745
Pelos del diablo	<i>Aristida portoricensis</i>	E	Puerto Rico	<i>Aristida portoricensis</i> (Pelos del diablo) Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Aristida_portoricensis_Recovery_Plan_Amendment_3.pdf		
No common name	<i>Aristida chaseae</i>	E	Puerto Rico	Sierra Bermeja Plants <i>Aristida chaseae</i> , <i>Lyonia truncata</i> var. <i>proctorii</i> , and <i>Vernonia proctorii</i> Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/A.chaseae_L.Truncata_V.proctorii_Recovery_Plan_Amendment_2.pdf		
No common name	<i>Lyonia truncata</i> var. <i>proctorii</i>	E	Puerto Rico				
No common name	<i>Vernonia proctorii</i>	E	Puerto Rico				
No common name	<i>Cranichis ricartii</i>	E	Puerto Rico, Cuba, Dominican Republic,	<i>Lepanthes eltoroensis</i> and <i>Cranichis ricartii</i> Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Cranichis_ricartii_Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf		

			French West Indies (Guadeloupe)				
Higuero de Sierra	<i>Crescentia portoricensis</i>	E	Puerto Rico	<i>Crescentia portoricensis</i> Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Crescentia%20portoricensis_Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf		
St. Thomas prickly-ash	<i>Zanthoxylum thomsonianum</i>	E	Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands	St. Thomas Prickly-ash Recovery Plan ³	https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Z.%20thomsonianum_Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf		

¹ E = endangered; T = threatened.

² Denotes a full recovery plan revision in the “Recovery Plan Name” column.

³ Denotes a recovery plan amendment in the “Recovery Plan Name” column.

How Do I Ask Questions or Provide Information?

For any species listed above, please submit your questions, comments, and materials to the appropriate contact in the table above. Individuals who are hearing impaired or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 800–877–8339 for TTY assistance.

Request for Public Comments

We request written comments on the draft recovery plan modifications. We will consider all comments we receive by the date specified in **DATES** prior to final approval of the plans.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1533 (f)).

Dated: May 20, 2019.

Signed: Margaret Everson.

Margaret E. Everson,
Principal Deputy Director,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Exercising the Authority of the Director,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Billing Code 4333–15

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